Though there is difficulty in getting competent faculty for the IIT system particularly in some of the disciplines, however, this is not affecting the teaching in the IIT adversely. IITs have been continuously evolving new ways of attracting the retaining quality faculty. IITs have recently started practice of having standing advertisement for inviting applications for faculty positions in the IIT system. They have also taken initiatives of attracting competent academics from universities abroad. A committee set up by the government to review functioning of IITs is specially looking into the issues relating to attracting and retaining high quality faculty in the IIT system, so that IIT continue to get and retain high quality faculty.

Establishment of Institutes for Quality Teaching

610. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University Grants Commission proposes to establish four institutes across the Country, called the Centre for Studies in Integrated Sciences (CSIS), in collaboration with CSIR on the lines of IIT, for promoting quality teaching; and

(b) If so, what are the details thereof alongwith financial allocations made for each of the proposed CSIS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has proposed to establish 4 Centres for Studies in Integrated Sciences (CSISs) for promoting quality teaching and research in basic sciences in collaboration with other scientific agencies in the Xth Plan. The proposal is being examined by the Government.

Survey on functioning of foreign universities by AICTE

611. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has recently conducted a survey into the functioning of foreign universities and such institutes, which do not have accreditation;

(b) if so, what are its findings; and

(c) what punitive measures are being taken to make them more accountable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Explanation by SC on misuse of funds under ICDS

†612. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has called for explanation from Government for spending crores of rupees on the Integrated Child Development Scheme every year;

(b) if so, the information provided by Government to the Supreme Court in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that after spending 85 per cent of funds on infrastructure and on the salaries of the employees, only 15 per cent amount reaches to the real beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken by Government to check the misuse of Government funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in a Public Interest Litigation (PIL), the Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed directions regarding implementation of certain welfare schemes of the Government. For Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, the Supreme Court has directed that supplementary nutrition may be provided to all beneficiaries as per nutrition norms of the Scheme.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.